

FINANCIAL AID 101



INTRODUCTIONS AND AGENDA

Agenda for today:

- Types of Financial Aid
- Four Simple Steps to Find Money for College
- Special Focus on Florida Bright Futures Scholarships
- Alternative ways to pay for college

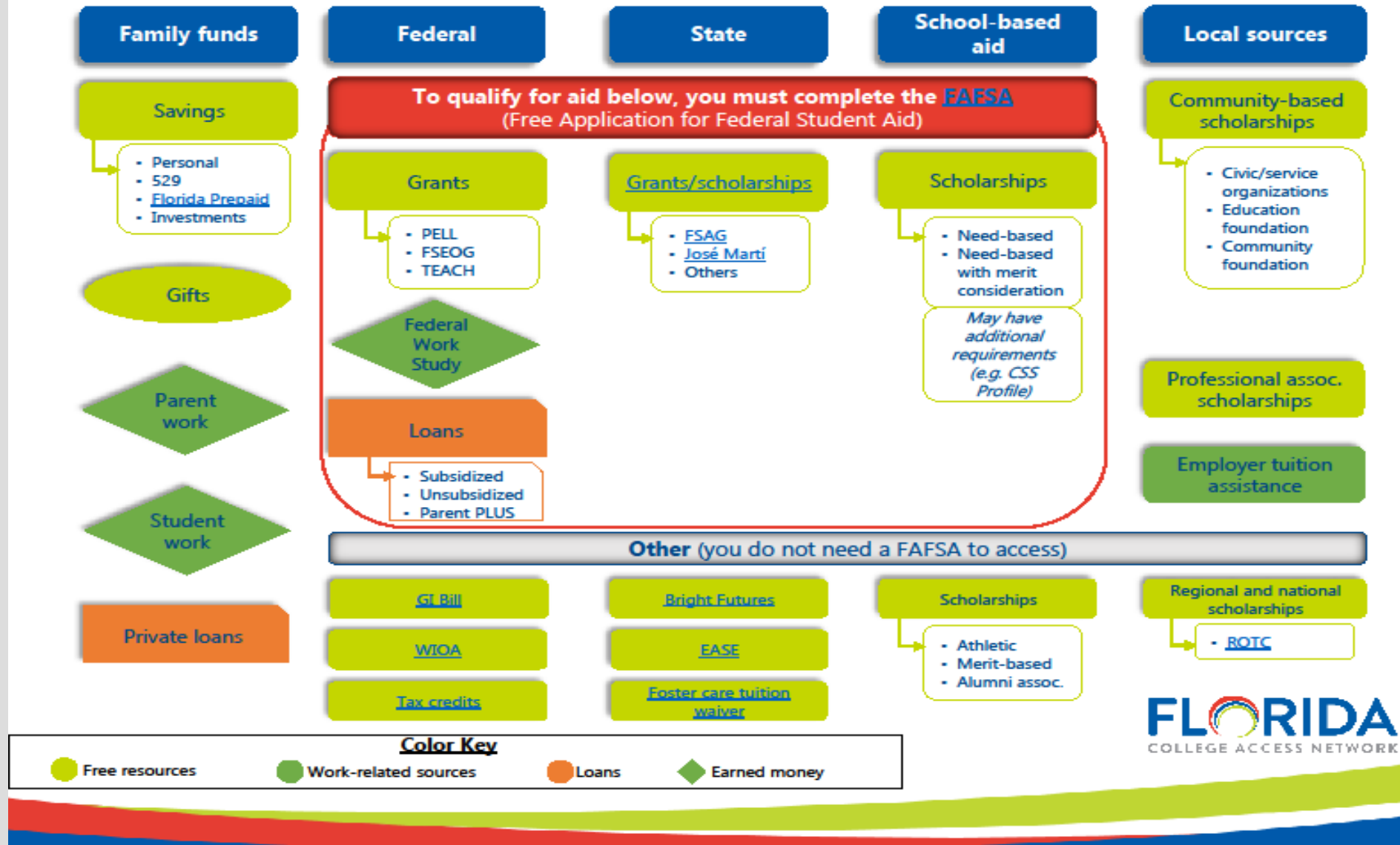


FINANCIAL AID

- Definition: Money given or loaned to students by the government, colleges, and other organizations to pay for college.
- Three Types:
 - Gift Aid – merit vs. need based
 - Loans – subsidized vs. unsubsidized
 - Work-Study – on-campus income

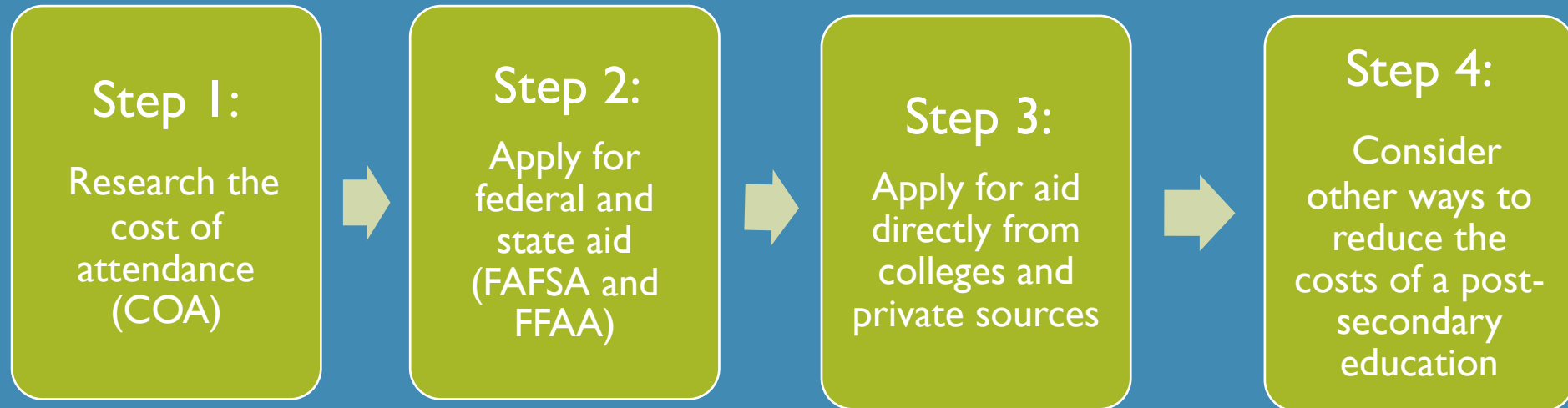


HOW TO PAY FOR COLLEGE



FROM FLORIDA COLLEGE ACCESS NETWORK (FCAN)
[HTTP://FLORIDACOLLEGEACCESS.ORG/](http://FLORIDACOLLEGEACCESS.ORG/)

UNDERSTANDING THE FINANCIAL AID PROCESS



STEP I. HOW DO I RESEARCH AND COMPARE COLLEGE COSTS?

- Learn the difference between STICKER PRICE vs. NET PRICE
- STICKER PRICE – found on college websites – it is the price with no scholarships or grants. Most families don't pay the sticker price.
- NET PRICE – found on college websites OR go to <https://collegecost.ed.gov/net-price> and type in the name of the college you are interested in. The “Net Price” of college is unique to each student, and it is the amount students pay to attend college each year AFTER subtracting scholarships and grants.



EXAMPLES OF STICKER PRICE OF COLLEGES

Public 2-year Colleges

School	Tuition (full-time)*	Room/Board, Other	Total Cost of Attend.	% Rec'g grants & schol.
HCC	\$2,506	\$14,160	\$16,666	64%
St Pete College	\$2,682	\$16,688	\$19,370	70%

Public 4-year Universities

School	Tuition (full-time)*	Room/Board, Other	Total Cost of Attend.	% Rec'g grants & schol.
Univ of Florida	\$6,381	\$15,050	\$21,431	89%
USF	\$6,410	\$17,456	\$23,866	89%

Historically Black Colleges & Univ.

School	Tuition (full-time)*	Room/Board, Other	Total Cost of Attend.	% Rec'g grants & schol.
FAMU	\$5,785	\$17,608	\$23,393	89%
Howard	\$28,440	\$20,810	\$49,250	98%

Private 4-Year Universities in Florida

School	Tuition (full-time)*	Room/Board, Other	Total Cost of Attend.	% Rec'g grants & schol.
Univ of Tampa	\$30,884	\$17,156	\$48,040	97%
Univ of Miami	\$53,682	\$20,030	\$73,712	68%

Private Out-of-State 4-Year Selective Universities

School	Tuition (full-time)*	Room/Board, Other	Total Cost of Attend.	% Rec'g grants & schol.
Harvard	\$54,002	\$21,889	\$75,891	57%
Stanford	\$56,169	\$22,049	\$78,218	55%

Source - <https://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/>
 * Note: tuition costs are from year 2020-2021

COSTS OF PRIVATE VS. PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES

Sometimes private universities are just as affordable as public schools after grants and scholarships are figured into the cost of attendance.

- Example: University of Tampa's Presidential Scholarship awards students with high GPAs and leadership/community service with \$15,000 to \$18,000/year merit scholarship. For in-state students, they also accept the Effective Access to Student Education (EASE) for an additional \$2,841.
- Example: Many highly selective colleges (i.e., Princeton, Harvard, Yale, Duke, and many others) offer free tuition, room and board to students whose families make under \$60,000/year.

OUT-OF-STATE MERIT SCHOLARSHIPS FOR HIGH-ACHIEVING STUDENTS

- Example: Spelman College (HBCU in Atlanta) offers several full-tuition, room & board scholarships for students with minimum weighted GPA of 3.8 (no ACT/SAT required), demonstrated record of community service and leadership.
- Example: University of Alabama's Presidential Scholarship awards out-of-state students with GPA of 3.5+, SAT of 1420 - 1600/ACT of 32-36 with a merit scholarship valued at \$28,000/year.
- Example: Boston University offers the Trustee Scholarship to 20 students with “incredible extracurricular activities”, top 5% of class, and (optional) SAT of 1500 or ACT of 33. Scholarship covers full tuition amount each year for four years (currently \$58,560)
- Example: Georgia Institute of Technology offers a Stamps Presidential Scholarship for out-of-state students that covers full tuition, room/board + \$12,000 for enrichment activities. Average ACT 33-35 or SAT 1450-1560.

STEP 2: FILL OUT FINANCIAL AID FORMS



1. Complete the **FAFSA** (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) to access Pell Grants, Work-Study, and Loans - <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>
2. Complete the **Florida Financial Aid Application (FFAA)** to access Florida-specific scholarships and grants, including Bright Futures - <https://www.floridastudentfinancialaidsg.org/SAPPRFILE/SAPPRFILE>
3. If required, complete the **CSS Profile** form – this is required for many private colleges - <https://cssprofile.collegeboard.org/>
4. If required, complete the college's specific institutional financial aid form.

FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA)

Common Questions:

- What is the FAFSA?
- How much does it cost to complete?
- Is it just used to apply for federal aid?
- Why fill it out if our family makes too much money to qualify for a Pell Grant?
- What is the deadline?

LIST OF STATE OF FLORIDA
FINANCIAL AID OPTIONS

STATE OF FLORIDA FINANCIAL AID OPTIONS

- First Generation Matching Grant Program (FGMG)
- William L. Boyd, IV Effective Access to Student Education Grant (EASE)
- Florida Student Assistant Grant (FSAG)
- Mary McCleod Bethune Scholarship
- Talented Twenty Admission Program
- Jose Marti Scholarship Challenge Grant



MORE STATE OF FL FINANCIAL AID OPTIONS

- Florida Farmworkers Student Scholarship (FFSS)
- Scholarships for Children and Spouses of Deceased/Disabled Veterans
- Benacquisto Scholarship
- Access to Better Learning Educational Grant (ABLE)
- Florida Public Postsecondary Career Education Student Assistance Grant Program



FLORIDA BRIGHT FUTURES
PROGRAMS

FLORIDA BRIGHT FUTURES PROGRAMS

- Florida Academic Scholars – 100% tuition
- Florida Medallion Scholars – 75% tuition
- Gold Seal Vocational Scholars
- Gold Seal CAPE Scholars

Note: all awards have requirements

for minimum tests scores, GPAs, service hours, etc.

For more info, go to <https://www.floridastudentfinancialaidsg.org>



APPLY DIRECTLY FOR SCHOLARSHIPS FROM EACH COLLEGE

Public 2-year Colleges

HCC:

<https://www.hccfl.edu/paying-college/financial-aid-and-scholarships/scholarships-grants-and-work-study/scholarships>

St. Pete College:

<https://www.spcollege.edu/financial-aid/types-of-financial-aid/scholarships>

Public 4-year Universities

University of Florida:

<https://admissions.ufl.edu/afford/scholarships>

University of South Florida:

<https://www.usf.edu/admissions/freshmen/admission-information/cost-of-attendance/scholarships.aspx>

Historically Black Colleges & Universities

Howard University (Wash DC)

<https://www2.howard.edu/student-financial-services/scholarships-and-grants>

FAMU (Tallahassee)

<http://www.famu.edu/index.cfm?Scholarships>

Private 4-Year Universities in Florida

University of Tampa:

<https://www.ut.edu/admissions/financial-aid/ut-scholarships-and-grants>

University of Miami:

<https://admissions.miami.edu/undergraduate/financial-aid/scholarships/freshman/index.html>

Private Out-of-State 4-Year Selective Universities

Harvard:

<https://college.harvard.edu/financial-aid/how-aid-works>

Stanford:

<https://financialaid.stanford.edu/undergrad/>

Note: Harvard, Stanford, and many other highly selective colleges provide only need-based aid.

STEP 3. APPLY FOR SCHOLARSHIPS FROM OTHER LEGITIMATE RESOURCES

- **Robinson PTSA Senior Scholarship AND Hillsborough County PTA Student Scholarships** – deadline usually in mid-March – must be a member of the PTSA for school year 2021-2022.
- Review **Hillsborough County Public Schools' Scholarship Matrix**, updated monthly - <https://www.hillsboroughschools.org/Page/4428>
- **Hillsborough Education Foundation** (November 1 – January 31) – scholarships range from \$500 to \$10,000 <https://educationfoundation.com/linksforstudents/senior-scholarships/>
- **Elks National Foundation Most Valuable Student Scholarships** (deadline Nov 15, 2021) – scholarships range from \$4,000 to \$50,000 <https://www.elks.org/scholars/scholarships/mvs.cfm>
- **Bailey Foundation Scholarship** – deadline Feb. 28, 2021 – min. GPA 2.5 - \$5,000 per year renewable for 4 years - <https://www.bailey-family.org/>
- **Florida Board of Realtors Student Scholarship Program** – deadline usually in March – scholarships are based on academic achievement and financial need - minimum of \$1,000 <https://www.floridarealtors.org/about/scholarships>
- Ask your school counselor to be nominated for **scholarships requiring a counselor nomination**.



MICRO-SCHOLARSHIPS

The College Board's Opportunity Scholarship

Students sign up through their College Board accounts starting junior year. Students earn chances at scholarships by completing key actions along the path to college. Scholarships will be awarded monthly through drawings among all eligible students. No essay is required, no minimum GPA or test scores. Students get rewarded for actions such as practicing for SAT on Khan Academy, improving their scores, and completing the FAFSA. Scholarships range from \$500 to \$40,000.

<https://opportunity.collegeboard.org/>

Raise.Me

Students grades 9 – 12 can sign up for a Raise.Me account. After creating a profile, they can “follow” the colleges they are interested in. Currently, there are over 330 colleges that participate in Raise.Me.

Students complete their RaiseMe Portfolio by adding course grades, club involvement, sports, volunteer activities, and more. For each achievement, students earn micro-scholarships from colleges they're following, the sum of which they will be awarded when they attend that college.

<https://www.raise.me/how-it-works>

RECOMMENDED SEARCH ENGINES

Other recommended websites:

- **Unigo:** <https://www.unigo.com/>
- **Fastweb.com:** <https://www.fastweb.com/>
- **Going Merry:** <https://www.goingmerry.com/>
- **Cappex.com:** <https://www.cappex.com/scholarships>
- **College Greenlight** for first-generation and underrepresented students:
<https://www.collegegreenlight.com/>
- **College Board Big Future:** <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search>



STEP 4. OTHER WAYS TO PAY FOR COLLEGE

- Earn college credit while still in high school: dual-enrollment, AP classes, early admissions programs, CLEP testing
- Military academies – free tuition
- Tuition-free colleges – “work colleges”
- Full-ride scholarships – Ex) Questbridge
- Tuition reimbursement through employer
- Military – ROTC, Reserves, GI Bill, Yellow Ribbon



OTHER WAYS TO REDUCE COSTS OF COLLEGE



- Southern Scholarship Foundation – free housing - <https://www.southern scholarship.org/>
- Apprenticeships - www.fl doe.org/academics/career-adult-edu/career-tech-edu/
- Reduce costs by attending a state college for the first two years – either through a targeted transfer program such as FUSE or IGNITE, or through completing an AA and transferring to a 4-year university.
<https://www.hccfl.edu/academics/fuse-hcc>
<https://www.hccfl.edu/academics/ignite-hcc>

WHERE TO GET MORE HELP

Still have questions?

1. At Robinson High School - Ms. Marjan DeBoskey – School Counselor Department Head
2. FAFSA help: Call 800-4-FED-AID (800-433-3243)
3. State of Florida Dept. of Education, Office of Student Financial Assistance: Call 888-827-2004
4. College Board CSS Profile Customer Service: Call 866-630-9305
5. Call the Financial Aid office of the colleges you are applying to.

Other places to look for information:

- Don't forget to check CANVAS for regular scholarship postings!!
- Follow the Cube on Twitter @cube_rhs
- Students can sign up to meet with a parent volunteer from the Cube to get questions answered about financial aid, scholarships, and college and career options.

ANY QUESTIONS?